

REMARKS

The present application has been amended in order to more particularly point out some of the distinguishing features of several embodiments of the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that the claims, as now amended, are in condition for examination and early allowance.

As always, if the Examiner has any questions concerning any of the above information, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

A marked-up version containing the changes that were made to the claims is attached hereto for the Examiner's easy reference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. M. Klein", is written over a horizontal line.

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MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

Kindly delete claims 2, 4 and 6 and amend claims 1, 3 and 5 as indicated below:

1. (Amended) A golf ball comprising:

a dual core assembly including a center component and a core layer disposed about said center component, said center component comprising a thermoset material and said core layer comprising a thermoplastic material; and

a cover layer assembly disposed about said dual core assembly, said cover layer assembly including one of (i) an inner over layer having a Shore D hardness of 65 or greater and an outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of 65 or less, said inner cover layer being harder than said outer cover layer, and (ii) an inner cover layer having a Shore D hardness of 65 or less and an outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of 65 or greater, said inner cover layer being softer than said outer cover layer, and wherein at least one of said inner cover layer and said outer cover layer comprises a polyurethane material.

3. (Amended) A golf ball comprising:

a dual core having a center component and a core layer disposed about said center component, wherein said center component comprises a thermoset material and said core layer comprises a thermoset or thermoplastic material; and

a single cover layer disposed about said dual core, said cover layer having a Shore D hardness of from about 40 to about 80, and wherein said single cover layer comprises a polyurethane material.

5. (Amended) A golf ball comprising:

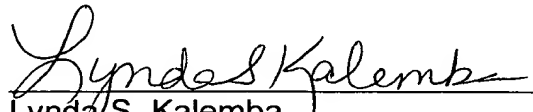
a dual core including a center component and a core layer disposed about said center component, said center component comprising a thermoset material and said core layer comprising a thermoplastic or thermoset material; and

a cover layer assembly disposed about said dual core wherein said cover layer assembly includes at least one of (i) an inner cover layer having a

Shore D hardness of 65 or greater and an outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of 65 or less, said inner cover layer being harder than said outer cover layer, (ii) an inner cover layer having a Shore D hardness of 65 or less and an outer cover layer of 65 or greater, wherein said inner cover layer is softer than said outer cover layer, and (iii) a single outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of from about 40 to 80.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment in connection with the above-identified U.S. Patent Application is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelop addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 28, 2002.


Lynda S. Kalemba